

I am increasingly concerned about the state of our public media. As trusting people, we citizens, for the most part, have largely ignored the inner workings of how the FCC and the media work. As a result, things have gone horribly wrong and our trust and patience is finally gone. You can thank the Bush administration for waking people up as they have tried again and again to slip things past us. Well, we are awake now.

Pappas Telecasting Companies' 'donation' of \$325,000 in airtime to Republican candidates in certain areas is yet another example of a powerful media group abusing its privileged access to the public airwaves.

"We the people" own the airwaves, and we should not have to "fight" to receive legally mandated FAIR and BALANCED coverage - especially regarding coverage of candidates during election times.

Pappas uses the public airwaves free of charge and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. Pappas' actions are legally questionable and cast doubt on whether Pappas truly intends to serve the public interest. Their actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. Further, they show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than just a returned postcard. Thank you.